MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF

The Canadian Wesleyan Methodist

NEW CONNEXION CHURCH,

HELD AT

SOUTH CROSBY CHAPEL,

JOHNSTOWNE DISTRICT;

Commencing the 4th and ending the 9th of June,

MDCCCLI.

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE WATCHMAN OFFICE.

1851.

Price Seven-and-a-half-pence.

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ADDRESS

OF

SUPERINTENDENTS OF CIRCUITS., &c.

Ancaster, - - -	H. Wilkinson, Waterdown P. O.
Arthur, - - - -	T.O. Adkins, Maitland P. O., Owen S.
Brock, - - - -	J. C. Warren, Pefferlaw P. O.
Blanchard, - -	A. Wright, St. Mary's P. O.
Bolton, - - - -	H. Bursell, Georgeville, C. E.
Barton, - - - -	J. Gundy, Hamilton.
Cavan, - - - -	J. Oates, Cavan P. O.
Caledon, - - -	C. Curry, Erin P. O.
Cayuga, - - -	W. Preston, Port Maitland P. O.
Crosby, - - - -	J.Hales, BeverlyP.O., JohnstowneDist.
Dunham, - - -	T. Ogden, Dunham Flatt P. O.
Durham, - - -	J. Baskerville, ———.
Drummond, - -	J. Shilton, Ennisville P. O.
Elizabethtown, -	J. Simpson, North Augusta P. O.
Goulburn&Fitzroy,	W. Bothwell, ———.
Hamilton, - - -	T. Goldsmith, Hamilton P. O.
Henrysburgh, - -	J. Histon, Lacolle P. O.
Howard, - - -	H. Coates, Clearville P.O.
London, *South*, -	W. McClure, London P. O.
do. North, -	J. Kershaw, Elginfield P. O.
Lake Erie Mission,	F. G. Weaver, Port Maitland P. O.
Lansdowne, - -	N. C. Gowan, Gananoque P. O.
Malahide, - - -	E. Williams, Vienna P. O.
Manvers, - - -	J. Bell, Manver's P. O.
Nassagaweya, - -	D. Bettes, Nassagaweya P. O.
Newcastle, - - -	T. Reid, Cobourg P.O.
Norwich, - - -	J. Wilkinson, Middleton

Oxford, - - - -	F. E. Powers, Kemptville P. O.
Potton, - - - -	O. Whitcombe, South Potton P. O.
Prince Edward, -	W. Gundy, Picton P. O.
Stanstead & Barnston,	L. P. Adams, Georgeville P.O., C.E.
Sydenham, - - -	J. Breakenbridge, Sydenham P. O.,
Stukely, - - - -	F. Hunt, Stukely Mills P. O., C. E.
St. Thomas, - -	J. Caswell, St. Thomas P. O.
South Bay, - -	B. P. Browne, Picton P.O.
Toronto, - - -	J. H. Robinson, Toronto P. O.
Trafalgar, - - -	T. M. Jefferis, Hornby P. O.
Waterford, - - -	B. Haigh, Waterford P.O.
Welland Canal, -	T. Rump, St. Catharines P. O.
Whitchurch, - -	C. Childs, Whitchurch P. O.
York, - - - - -	J. Shaw, Toronto P. O.
President, - - -	H. O. Crofts, D. D., care of B. Fowler, Esq., Hyde Park, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, England.
General Superinten't,	J. H. Robinson, Toronto P. O.
Assistant do.	W. McClure, London C. W.
Treas. of Connexion,	T. Lottridge, Hamilton P. O.
Financial Secretary,	R. H. Brett, Toronto P.O.
Missionary do.,	T. T. Howard, do do.

MINUTES, &C.

According to appointment of the Annual Conference held in Whitchurch, Home District, in June, 1850, the Conference met at South Crosby, Johnstowne District, 4th June, 1851.

Question I.

Who compose the present Conference?

Answer.

Ancaster	H. Wilkinson, J. Cummings.
Brock	J. C. Warren.
Bolton	H. Bursell.
Barton	———
Cavan	J. Bell, R. Staples.
Caledon	C. Curry, R. Wansborough.
Cayuga	F. Weaver.
Crosby	J. Simpson, J. Leggett.
Dunham	T. Ogden.
Drummond	N. C. Gowan, — Anderson.
Elizabethtown	A. Wright, T. Hill.
Goulburn and Fitzroy .	W. Peck.
Hamilon	T. Goldsmith.
Henrysburgh	J. Histon.
Howard	E. Williams.
London, South	———, J. Pacey.
London and Blanchard .	H. Coates.
Lansdowne	F. E. Powers, W. Robinson.
Malahide	W. Bothwell, G. Yeokam.
Montreal, ...	R. Irwin.
Nassagaweya	C. Childs, C. Harris.
Newcastle	T. Reed, R. C. Moone.
Norwich	———, P. Johnston.
Owen Sound	W. Preston.

Oxford	T. M. Jefferis, T. Queen.
Potton	By Letter.
Prince Edward	W. Gundy, W. Yerex.
Stanstead and Barnston .	L. P. Adams.
Stukely	By Letter.
St. Thomas	By Letter.
Toronto	W. McClure, J. Doel, Jr.
Trafalgar	J. Hales, E. McCann.
Waterford	B. Haigh, J. Eddy.
Welland Canal . . .	T. Rump, A. P. M. Collver.
Whitchurch	———, B. Pearson.
Western Mission . . .	J. Breakenridge.
York	By Letter.

OFFICERS OF THE CONNEXION.

H. O. Crofts,	*General Super. of the Mission.*
W. McClure,	*Assistant do.*
T. Lottridge,	*Treasurer of the Connexion.*
R. H. Brett,	*Financial Secretary.*
T. T. Howard,	*Missionary Secretary.*

The following brethren, being Elders, were entitled to a seat in Conference, by the terms of the Union, but were not present :—

[illegible] Bloomfield, B. P. Brown, T. Cole, C. Cope, R. Garry, J. Gear, I. Haney, H. N. Kimball, I. Marshall, W. Martin, J. Reed, J. Sheldon, A. Smith, J. Williams.

Question II. *Have the characters of the Ministers been examined ?*

Answer. They have, agreeably to rule.

Question III. *What Preachers have been admitted into full connexion ?*

Answer. T. M. Jeffers, T. Browne.

Question IV. *Who has been ordained Elders ?*

Answer. J. Oates.*

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* Ordained for special purposes.

Question V. *Who remain on trial ?*

Answer. J. Breakenridge, B.P. Browne, C. Curry, (these have travelled 3 years,) W. Peck, J. C. Watts, (these have travelled 2 years,) J. Oates, J. Gundy, T. O. Adkins J. Baskerville, A. Wright, J. Kershaw, (these have travelled 1 year.)

Question VI. *Who has desisted from travelling ?*

Answer. J. W. G. Rogers.

Question VII. *What Preachers are received on trial ?*

Answer. J. Shaw*, W. Barnett*, John Bell*, D. Bettis*, D. Savage*, J. McAllister*, O. Whitcombe.*

Question VIII. *Have any of our Preachers died during the past year ?*

Answer. None.

Question IX. *How are the Preachers stationed this year ?*

Answer. In the following order, viz. :

LONDON DISRRICT.

London South,	Wm. McClure, W. Barnett.
Blanchard,	A. Wright.
St. Thomas,	J. Caswell.
Howard,	H. Coates ; one to be sent.
Malahide,	E. Williams.
Norwich,	John Wilkinson ; J. Jackson,† E. Van Norman, Super.
Waterford,	B. Haigh and J. C. Watts.
London North,	J. Kershaw.

W. McClure, Chairman.

* These brethren are received as probationers of one year's standing, having laboured under the direction of the Annual Committee during the past year,

† Since the close of the Session of our Annual Conference Brother Jackson has passed through death to his final reward. This event took place on the 6th of July, 1851.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Hamilton,	T. Goldsmith, J. Brennan, Supernumerary.
Ancaster.	H. Wilkinson, John Bell.
Welland Canal,	T. Rump, D. Savage; F. Haynes, Supernumerary.
Barton,	J. Gundy, under Superintendence of T. Goldsmith.
Nassagaweya,	D. Bettes.
Cayuga,	W. Preston.
Sydenham, Owen Sound,	J. Breakenridge,
Durham, Owen Sound,	J. Baskerville.
Arthur, Owen Sound,	T. O. Adkins.
Lake Erie Mission,	F. Weaver.

T. Goldsmith, Chairman.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

Toronto City,	J. H. Robinson; T. T. Howard, Supernumerary.
York,	J. Shaw, under Superintendence of J. H. Robinson.
Whitchurch,	C. Childs.
Trafalgar,	T. Jefferis.
Caledon,	C. Curry.
Brock,	J. C. Warren; one to be sent

J. H. Robinson, Chairman.

CAVAN DISTRICT.

Cavan,	J. Oates.
Manvers,	J. Bell, W. Robinson,
Newcastle,	T. Reed.
Prince Edward,	W. Gundy.
South Bay,	B. P. Browne, under Superintendence of W. Gundy.

James Bell, Chairman.

JOHNSTOWNE DISTRICT.

Lansdowne.	N. C. Gowan, W. Peck.

Elizabethtown,	J. Simpson.
Oxford,	F. E. Powers.
Crosby,	J. Hales, J. McAllister.
Drummond,	J. Shilton.
Fitzroy & Goulburn,	W. Bothwell, D. D. Rolston.

J. Hales, Chairman.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

Stanstead & Barnston,	L. P. Adams.
Stukely,	F. Hunt.
Bolton,	H. Bursell.
Potton,	O. Whitcombe.
Dunham,	T. Ogden.
Henrysburgh,	J. Histon.
Montreal,	One to be sent.

L. P. Adams, Chairman.

CONNEXIONAL OFFICERS.

H. O. Crofts,	President of Conference.
J. H. Robinson,	General Superintendent.
W. McClure,	Assistant "
T. Lottridge,	Treasurer of Connexion.
R. H. Brett,	Financial Secretary.
T. T. Howard,	Missionary Secretary.

State of the Connexion.

CIRCUITS.	Chapels.	Chapels Building.	Classes.	Congregations.	Circuit Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Members.	Members on Trial.	Members of Families.	Deaths.	Removals.	Sabbath Schools.	Sab. School Scholars.	Sab. School Teachers.
Ancaster - - -	4		8	11	2	5	174	1		2	5	1	80	6
Barnston & Stanstead - - -			3	10	1	1	50					*5	100	10
Barton - - - -	2	1	4	8	1		81		183		6	1	30	6
Bolton - - - -			2	8	1	2	75		115	3	13			
Brock - - - -	1	2	4	10	1	3	50	8	14	1	9	1	40	7
Cavan - - - -	4	3	32	36	3	2	468	60	2275	4	12	*		
Caledon - - -			6	13	1	1	55	27	200		8	1	80	2
Cayuga - - -			6	8	1	1	110	6			8	2	50	4
Crosby - - -	1		11	16	2	1	168	6	720	2	24	5	160	29
Dunham - - -	†2		9	19	1	5	130	4	250	1	2	*2	65	12
Elizabethtown -			9	13	1	4	121	12		3	6	6	135	24
Golburn & Drummond - - -	2		10	25	3	3	167	2		5				
Hamilton - - -	1		3	1	1		45	2				1	60	15
Henrysburgh - -	1		6	11	1		59		133		9			
Howard - - -			6	9	1	2	70	1			2	1	30	3
London - - -	1		15	10	2	8	190	18			14	3	280	35
London & Blanchard - - -	1	1	7	17	2	1	105				2			
Lansdowne - -	2	1	9	14	2	1	134	13		3	4			
Malahide - - -	1		5	8	1	2	73			2	6	2	150	24
Nassagaweya - -	5	1	8	10	1	2	150	18			3	3	130	20
Newcastle - -	3		6	10	1	5	80	7		1				
Norwich - - -			5	10	1	4	112	8		2	17	3	100	10
Owen Sound - -	2	3	13	28	3	3	140	3			12	2	90	7
Oxford - - -	1		6	8	1	4	77	10		1	7			
Potton - - - -	†2		4	11	1	4	54	3	200			1	25	3
Prince Edward -	3		13	18	2	6	308	21			15	2	70	10
St. Thomas - -	3		7	13	2	5	126	13			6	1		
Stukely - - -			5	9	1		59	10	150		14			
Toronto - - -	1		6	1	1	4	52	6			13	1	112	16
Trafalgar - - -	3		6	13	1	1	83	17		1	9	2	100	12
Waterford - -	1		8	14	2	3	167		200		21			
Welland Canal -	3		10	14	2	2	172	51		1	17	5	180	30
Whitchurch - -	2		6	8	1	2	57			1	11			
Western Mission			3	7	1	3	30					1		
York - - - -	2		3	4	1	2	42					2	80	11
	53	12	262	125	50	89	4034	327	4575	33	275	54	2147	296

† Union Chapels. * Union Schools.

RESOLUTIONS OF CONFERENCE.

1. That the Raleigh appointment and the Western Mission be attached to the Howard Circuit, and the remainder of that Mission be abandoned.

2. That the Cavan Circuit be divided: the Townships of Manvers, Clarke, Cartwright, and Ops, to constitute the Manvers Circuit; and the remainder of the original Circuit to be called the Cavan Circuit.

3. That the Goulburn and Drummond Circuit be divided, as requested by the quarterly meeting.

4. That the Conference would wish to impress upon the minds of our people, the necessity of taking a deeper and more lively interest in the progress of Sabbath Schools, and all other means which have for their object, the moral and spiritual culture of the youthful mind, in order to fit the rising generation for more extended usefulness in the Church of Christ, either as Sabbath School Teachers, Class Leaders, Exhorters, Local or Travelling Preachers.

5. That a Committee composed of Revs. J. H. Robinson, W. McClure, and T. T. Howard, be appointed to draw up a course of study adapted to the necessary requirements of a Ministry; so as to direct the studies of our young men, to encourage them amid their difficulties in the pursuit of sound knowledge; and so to guard our Connexion against the introduction among us, of inefficient Ministers. And that our young men be in the future required to attend to this Course of Study, and that they be subjected to a strict examination at the beginning of each Annual Conference.

6. That the unanimous judgment of this Conference is against the use of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage; therefore we do

sincerely hope that all our Ministers and Members will give their religious and social influence in favour of the Temperance Reformation.

7. Recognizing as we do, in every human being an heir of immortality, to whom it is our imperative duty so far as in our power to preach the gospel, and elevate to the enjoyment of all our own blood-bought privileges, as citizens of heaven; we feel ourselves bound both by our allegiance to the Head of the Church, and in love professed to God and man, to lift our strong testimony against every system and institution which opposes or prevents the will of God being fully realized by every man (guiltless of crime) to the pursuit of Life, Liberty and Happiness, we therefore declare—1st. Our utter abhorence of human slavery in all lands and especially as it now exists in that otherwise favoured land, viz., the United States of America—2nd. Our entire repudiation of the efforts of so-called Ministers of religion, who seek to justify manstealing from the Gospel of Jesus Christ; 3rd. Our deep sympathy with the poor fugitives who are now driven to seek a home of peace and liberty in the Province, under the protection of the British Crown.

8. That this Conference regarding the Sabbath as a day set apart by divine and special command, for the observance of the public worship of Almighty God, and that any allowances or practices whether on the part of individuals, or families, or municipal or Legislative bodies that inteferes with the strict observance of that holy day, is a direct violation of the law of God and not only injurious to the temporal welfare of the community and Province, but calculated to destroy religious influence, encourage immorality and involve our families and the whole Province in the Judgments of the Almighty. We therefore resolve 1st. That our Ministers shall bring the subject by special services before all our Conference. 2nd. That this Conference present a petition to the Legislature on this subject —especially in reference to the Post Office Regulations, the

sailing of Mail Packets, &c. &c., on the Sabbath day ; 3rd. That we use all our influence in the fear of God, by every possible means to promote the strict observance of the Sabbath day ; 4th. That the following Brethren be a committee to carry out these resolutions at their earliest convenience : viz., Revs. J. H. Robinson, W. McClure, T. T. Howard and Messrs. J. Foster, R. H. Brett, and W. Sharpe.

9. That the Rev. H. O. Crofts on his return to England be requested to bring more directly before our English brethren, and the British public in general, both in the Missionary Meetings and the Annual Conference, our position and wants in this conntry, (in particular the case of Montreal,) inasmuch as his extensive knowledge of our Connexion and Missionary work in this Province, will enable him in the manner specified, to acquaint the body at home with our real position, our difficulties and prospects.

10. That there be two District Meetings in each District: the one to be held in September and the other in May.

11. That the May District Meetings shall examine Ministers on probation, and report to Conference respecting their character and qualification.

12. That the Missionary appointments and deputations in the several Districts be arranged by the September District Meetings.

13. That our Quarterly Meetings be recommended to use great discrimination in admitting young men on the plan as Exhorters or Local Preachers ; and that they require from them at the April quarterly Meeting, satisfactory proof of improvement during the year.

14. That the following brethren be the Stationing Committee : viz., Revs. W. McClure, T. Goldsmith ; and Messrs. Leggett, Hill and Yerex.

15. That the following Brethren compose the Annual Committee, the ensuing year : Revs. J. H. Robinson, (correspond-

ing member,) W. McClure : and Messrs. R. H. Brett, T. Lottridge, J. Doel, Senr.

16. That the following Brethren be the Missionary Committee for the ensuing year, Rev. J. H. Robinson, (*Chairman,*) T. Lottridge, (*Treasurer,*) Revs. T. T. Howard, (*Secretary,*) W. McClure, H. Wilkinson, C. Childs, T. Goldsmith ; and J. Doel, Senr., R. H. Brett, W. Sharpe, E. McPhail and J. Good, Esqrs.

17. That the Revs. T. T. Howard, Jas. Bell and H. Wilkinson, be a Committee to prepare a suitable address on behalf of this Conference, to be presented to the Rev. H. O. Crofts, in view of his return to England.

18. That the thanks of this Conference be presented to our esteemed Brother, R. H. Brett, Esq., for his able advocacy of the interests of our Connexion during his stay in England.

19. That the thanks of this Conference be presented to T. Lottridge, Esq., for his valuable services as Treasurer of the Connexion, and that he be appointed to the same office for the ensuing year.

20. That the thanks of this Conference be presented to R.H. Brett, Esq., for his efficient services as Financial Secretary ; and that he be appointed to the same office the ensuing year.

21. That the next Annual Conference be held in Bethel Chapel, (Welland Canal Circuit,) commencing the first Wednesday in June, 1852.

H. O. CROFTS, *President.*
N. C. GOWAN, *Secretary.*

That the thanks of this Conference be presented to the President, for his efficient services in the Chair.

That the thanks of this Conference be presented to the Secretary, for the efficient manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

Address to the Members

OF THE

CANADIAN WESLEYAN METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHURCH.

BELOVED BRETHREN :—We, the Representatives of our Churches, having been permitted, through the mercy of the great Head of the Church, to assemble together in Conference, gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of addressing to you the epistle usually expected from us at this period. And now allow us to assure you, that in reviewing the work of God in which we are engaged, we behold abundant cause of the deepest gratitude to Almighty God, for the no small success which he has been graciously pleased to vouchsafe to the labours of your Ministers during the past year. We are happy to inform you that while the number of our members has been increased by some hundreds, the Lord has also deepened his work in the hearts of many of the members of our Churches, who, consequently are walking together in the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace, and in the path of holiness. The unity and the purity of the members is a chief part of the glory and the strength of our Churches. Oh, "how good and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"—to walk, and labour together in the fellowship of one common form of uncorrupted doctrine, and of a discipline which is reasonable, liberal, and scriptural. There are certain duties which are imperative upon you, both as members of the Methodist New Connexion, and as disciples of Christ, and those duties from their paramount importance, demand that they should be brought frequently before you. To a few of those duties we now desire your prayerful and dis-passionate attention. In the first place allow us to call your attention to the duty of reading the

Scriptures. Love and reverence for the Bible is a strong evidence of our adoption into the family of God. Search the Scriptures, is a command which comes to us clothed with Divine Authority ; and what command is more pointed or positive than this? It is then, brethren, not only your *high privilege*, but also your imperative duty to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the Oracles of Jehovah. The Bible is peculiarly and emphatically the Christian's own Book—his peculiar treasure—his richest gem ; more precious to him than the gold of Ophir, or the riches of the Indies ; yea, than the wealth and treasures of the whole Globe." Brethren, as before observed, you are commanded to "search the Scriptures," and this commandment necessarily implies your capacity to understand them ; for He who is infinite in wisdom, and boundless in goodness, has given no vain—no useless commandment ; and surely searching the Scriptures if you were incapable of understanding them, would be useless. But, thank God, the Bible is not a sealed book—No, No! It is a bright source of instruction, and an unerring teacher. It sooths the believer's sorrows, it heals his wounds, and drives away his fears ; it imparts wisdom to the ignorant, riches to the poor, strength to the weak, honor to the despised, and salvation to the lost. It administers consolation in trouble, and points the mourning suffering soul to Heaven as a refuge and resting place for the penitent and the humble. It draws aside the curtain of darkness and fear that surrounds the tomb, and enables the departing saint to yield up his spirit with a sacred calmness, while it assures him that ineffable delights in the realms of bliss are the everlasting portion of the dead "who die in the Lord." And yet we fear that this *only perfect* book is treated with gross neglect, and even criminal indifference. Oh, Brethren, read the Scriptures ; read them in your families ; read them by course ; read them impartially ; read them prayerfully ; and let us certify you that thus read, they will be a sure and sufficient rule of faith and practice.

Secondly.—We desire to call your attention to the subject

of class Meetings. The Class Meeting is an institution peculiarly and emphatically Methodistic in its origin and character, and one of vital importance in the economy and workings of Methodism. Class Meetings are, under God, one grand means of the religious improvement and stability of the members of our Churches. To them as a principal cause we may attribute all that is rich, and deep, and clear, and scriptural among our people as regards Christian experience, and general knowledge of the doctrines and duties of the word of God and of spiritual things. The noble design of these Meetings is to promote the increase of our members, to revive languishing graces, stimulate brotherly love, and elicit latent zeal ; to increase their knowledge of the Scriptures—of the deceitfulness of the human heart, of the temptations and devices of Satan, and of the plan of Salvation. And although, these are chiefly the great, important, and noble objects aimed at in the establishment and continuance of these Meetings among us, objects too, that are certain to be accomplished where these Meetings are punctually attended and properly conducted, nevertheless, we fear there are persons connected with our Societies, calling themselves Methodists, who live in the too frequent, if not habitual neglect of these means of edification and grace. The position of all such persons is in a high degree undesirable, un-methodistic unreasonable, and dangerous. Nearly every institution, whether of a political, social, or religious character has what is not inaptly designated "hangers on ;" signifying thereby persons who have a feint desire to be regarded as favourable to a cause, yet do not unreservedly support it. Such characters in Methodism need never expect to be much benefited themselves, nor yet to be greatly useful to our Church. And here we would ask, *why are the Class Meetings neglected ?* Some of our Members, it is true, may have a justifiable reason for not being present at every meeting of their Class ; but the number of such is few. We greatly fear that the true cause of the neglect of Class Meetingsis to be found in religious languor—a want of

spirituality—in a backsliding in heart. Oh! Brethren Ministers, Leaders, Members, awake! awake to the importance of this subject, seeing, as you must, that it is one of vital necessity to the well-being of Methodism; for where Class Meetings are properly attended Methodism will, in general, thrive; but where Class Meetings are neglected Methodism will wane. Fully convinced of this fact were the compilers of our excellent book of discipline, when the first law which they inserted for the government of our members was, and is, "persons admitted into Church fellowship with us, shall be required to meet *weekly* in Class, or as frequently as possible," Discip. Sec. 2, Clause 1.

Thirdly.—The next subject, beloved brethren, to which we would direct your most serious attention is, Family worship. There are many heads of familes who are quite willing to be the governor or king of their family, and it is right that they should bear rule over the same, but not as tyrants, not with the rod of despotism. But there are comparatively few heads of households who are willing to be the Priest of the family; few there are who morning and evening gather *all* the members of their household together, and read a portion of Holy Scripture, and sing one of our sweet hymns and pray. Is not then, the neglect of this duty *one* great reason, why there are so many unconverted children belonging to professedly pious parents? Why is it that so many of the children of the members of our churches, who arrive at manhood—leave their father's house and settle for themselves, yet have never been "born again?" Why is it that there are so few of your children who at present meet in class? who are members of the church and who serve the Lord? Is it not because *you* (not your ministers) do not use the necessary means to secure their conversion to God? As Methodists we believe in the conversion of children, and yet there are many of the children of our members unconnected with our Classes and unsaved. No doubt the neglect of *family* religion is one great cause of this deplorable fact. God, the God of truth says, that he will have

respect unto those families who worship Him; and at the same time declares that He will pour out His fury upon the families who call not upon his name. And again, the curse of the Lord is in the house of the wicked! and is not the neglect of a known duty wickedness? Oh! think of this all you who have never erected a family altar, and no longer neglect family worship. The poor benighted Heathen who have never heard of the Bible nor the Saviour, have Gods (so-called) in their houses, whom they "ignorantly worship." Here then is a reproof to all Methodists who never pray in their families; yes the Heathen attend to family worship, whilst many professing Christians entirely neglect it, and others but partially, and occasionally discharge this duty. We speak this to your shame, for surely the Heathen ought not to be an example to you. What, brethren, can be more reasonable than that you should call your families together to unite in giving thanks to Jehovah for all the family blessings and mercies which you enjoy, and to ask his pardon for your family sins? and at the same time to pray that the blessing of God which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow may still be vouchsafed to you and your families? What can be more *reasonable* than that every father, or head of a house to whom is entrusted the care of his children, and the members of his household should in the morning, as the great king of day is lighting up, and animating all nature with his glorious rays, pour forth the soul of his family in praise and in love to the maker of the bright sun, and the author of all his family blessings? And as the pale moon is gently rising on delighted earth, and shedding her silver hues over the dark mantle of the night, present his evening family orisons of praise for the mercies of the day, and ask Almighty protection during the night? No doubt you are all ready to confess that you have certain family mercies and blessings wants and requirements; is it not *reasonable* then, that in your family capacity you should thank God for the one, and pray to him for the other? And brethren, let us assure you, that there

is nothing, perhaps, which unites the social and the religious so beautifully as family worship: it increases family affection, it secures family obedience, it (especially in the evening) composes the mind, and prepares for sleep. Oh! brethern, the family altar should be surrounded as regularly as the family table: Verily such are the brightest spots upon the page of life which we spend in communion with Deity—the most useful—the most joyful—the most edifying. Oh, what can be more lovely to the eyes of piety, what more pleasing to the ears of devotion, what more cheering to the heart of the Christian, than to see the father of a family reading a chapter of holy Scripture, while his wife and children and servants are attentively listening to the "joyful sound," which makes wise unto salvation, and, learning their duty to God and their fellow-men, and then the way to Heaven? then joining their cheerful songs in praise to God for his mercies, and falling upon their knees, humbly implore God's pardon for their transgressions? Let, then, the offerings of family prayer and praise go up daily to the giver of all your family mercies and blessings, with a constancy and a zeal like that anciently manifested in offering the morning and evening sacrifice.

The fourth and next subject which we bring before you is the necessity for a proper support of your Ministry; it is a fact and one to be lamented, that many of your Ministers do not receive a *competent* support. Even those who are averse to the splendor of a richly endowed Ministry will readily concede that to the Ministers of religion should be secured a proper maintenance, that they should not only be raised above actual want, but that they should also be placed in a position of decent independence. And if the superabundance of wealth be injurious to your Ministers, the extreme of want is still worse, for our holy Christianity is then shamefully degraded in the person of its teachers. If Ministers are lowered into pauperism they will have only the spirit of paupers, and will forfeit the respect of others, by being robbed of their own. And further, if the

thoughts of your Ministers be engrossed about the present and future means of subsistence, they cannot lend their whole mind to literary studies nor to spiritual duties ; chained to earth, how can they soar to heaven? Such of you as wish your Ministers to work zealously and efficiently upon your Circuits, and to *continue successfully* to labor among you, ought, surely to provide a suitable support. Leave no room for one of your Preachers to think that while he is spending the best of his days, his talents, his time and his labour in ministering to your best and most important interests, his wife at home is uncomfortable and his little children are growing up in ignorance, because you have not furnished him with the means of educating them. But we will not dilate further upon this point, as we are rejoiced to know that many noble men of Zion, who are friends to our Connexion have made, and are making zealous and praiseworthy efforts to secure a more competent support for the Ministers who labour among us ; and who, we are satisfied will not rest till this desirable object is accomplished. You will remember, that a resolution upon this subject was passed at our last Conference, which recommended the increase of the salaries of your Ministers and Preachers ; that resolution has been brought before the proper local boards, and upon the Circuits being called over *seriatim*, and the judgment and will of each ascertained upon this subject, it was found that while very few indeed were against raising the salaries, some were in favour of a middle course, but a very large majority were for fixing the sums of increase according to the proposal of the resolution of last year. This, therefore, will in future be the law of the Connexion upon the subject of the Salaries of Ministers, and we do hope and believe that you will endeavour fully to meet the entire demands upon you for the support of your Preachers. There are various other duties and subjects upon which we would gladly address you, but an address such as the present will not permit us to say to you all that we desire. As to our Conference, however, it has been to us a most delightful season ;

never did our Ministers seem more attached to each other; never was there a greater freedom of discussion mingled with an oneness of object and a love of each other. We have been favoured with the presence of God while met to do business for Him in the service of His Church. Our statistics, as you will perceive will shew a very fair and encouraging increase in our Churches; and what we regard as far more important, many we have reason to believe through the instrumentality of your Ministers have been turned to the Lord. It will, we are confident, afford you the sincerest pleasure to learn that though exposed to danger, disease, and death, as all your Ministers have been, yet not one of them has gone down to the place of the dead; they are all living to praise God, and to encourage his work. The great head of the Church has also been graciously pleased to raise up, and send out among us a number of new labourers, as the list of our stationed Preachers (to which we refer you) will shew. Thus while the news of Zion's welfare should fill your hearts with joy forget not to offer to the Lord of the vineyard your grateful acknowledgments. May His name be ever blessed! May the Heavens still pour down fatness upon you, and may your fruit to God, in your lives and labours, continually abound. We have, brethren, the painful duty to communicate to you a fact, which we are confident will cause sorrow in many hearts through this Province. After a long laborious and efficient service of twelve years among our Churches in Canada, the Parent Society have called home our highly esteemed General Superintendent, who, in the discharge of his arduous and important duties, has by his piety, and herculean labours, greatly advanced the cause of God among us. And most heartily do we pray that the richest blessing of indulgent Heaven may rest upon him and his family! And now, dearly beloved in the Lord, our hearts desire and prayer to God for you is, that He may pour upon you all the rich effusions of the Holy Spirit; so that *all* your energies, means and abilities may be exerted in doing and in getting good. Oh let

us all, Ministers and Laymen, gather round the hallowed cross, enter anew into a covenant of peace, love and unity, and dedicate our united energies to the interests of Christianity, and thus prove to a gainsaying world that we have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Signed on behalf of the Conference.

H. O. CROFTS, *President*.
N. C. GOWAN, *Secretary*.

Address

OF THE

CANADIAN CONFERENCE TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE

VERY DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Assembled in our annual Conference through the good providence of God, we desire to approach you in order to express our warmest feelings of gratitude, for the great and constant support you have rendered to our Churches in this land during the eleven years now past, and for the unabated interest you still feel in our welfare; your address to us has cheered our hearts, and we hope to profit by the wise and pious councils therein contained. The statements also of our beloved brother Brett of your earnest desire for our prosperity and your willingness to aid us to the utmost of your power, in spreading the knowledge of the Saviour's name and in extending our Scriptural principles of Church Government, through the length and breadth of the land are peculiarly gratifying to us, and will lead us to devote ourselves to the great work in which we are engaged with renewed vigour.

The great success which followed your efforts in England during the past year, has excited our warmest ascriptions of praise to the great Head of the Church; and most devoutly do we pray thatthe "Lord God may make you a thousand times as many more as ye are, and bless you even as he has promised." It is with unutterable thankfulness to Almighty God, for his unspeakable goodness to our little community, that we report to you an increase in our membership of *three hundred* and *twenty eight*. We now number *four thousand* and *thirty four;* and this number might have been augmented, had we been disposed to swell our numbers, but there has been and

still is a disposition to give the lowest, rather than the highest number of members, which we are warranted to give.

Our finances are as prosperous as those of any former year, and our Auxiliary Missionary Society has raised sixty pounds more than last year. Encouraged by the increasing liberality of our people, and by the assurance that it will meet with your warmest approbation, we have resolved this Conference to augment the Salaries of our Married Preachers to seventy-five pounds, and to give our single men who have travelled through their probation and still remain single, the sum of thirty pounds per annum; this increase of salary will put our beloved brethren in more comfortable circumstances, and enable them to preach the word without any undue anxiety, as to the supply of their temporal wants; but we would not have you to forget that this increase of salary, will require an increase of effort on the part of our people, and an increased grant from the funds of the parent society. Our prospects were never so cheering as they now are; the exertions of our brethren in this country, aided by your generosity, have placed our Connexion on that basis which cannot well be shaken by any assaults from without; and we hope that the God of peace will preserve us from all internal broils. The present conference has been the most harmonious of any that we have yet had; the brethren are living in the affections of each other, and endeavouring, and are determined to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace.

The openings in different parts of the province which demand our attention, are both important and numerous, Bytown, Brockville and Montreal in the east, Brantford, and Woodstock in the west, places of great importance, might be immediately entered, had we the men and the means to enable us to occupy them to advantage. From Montreal a representative has been sent and is now with us earnestly desiring us to send a minister there from the Conference, and pledging to do all that lies in the power of those that sent him to aid in establishing a Methodist New Connexion Church in that City, where our

Scriptural principles are still firmly held by those we left, and by others who have heartily embraced them since our Church was broken up there ; want of laborers, and want of means to build a place of worship in that City, alone prevented us from entering this important and promising field at once.

We know well that the change in the General Superintendents and the expences connected therewith, will prevent you from making any addition to the grant for the general purposes of the mission this year ; but we sincerely trust that next Conference you will be in a position to grant us a sum which when united with the amount of our own auxiliary, will enable us to appropriate at least the average of thirty pounds to each married and twelve pounds ten shillings to each single Minister, in the Connexion. We are perfectly aware that heavy pecuniary liabilities on your part have prevented your doing in past years, what we feel assured would have been your earnest desire to accomplish for us in this respect. But when these are removed, which we hope will be the case at your present conference ; we confidently expect that you will do all you can to enable us to carry out successfully, the great work in which we are engaged.

Our dearly beloved Brother, McClure, the assistant Superintendent of the Mission, holds a high place in our affections, he has greatly aided us, both by his acceptable pulpit labors, and his judicious councils. And has gained our affections by his kind and affable deportment, and could he be spared from a station to devote himself to visiting the circuits, he would be of still greater advantage to the work in this country, which yet requires the Regular Visitations of the Superintendents.

Having definitely learned that our highly esteemed and valued Brother the Rev. H. O. Crofts, for many years the General Superintendent, is about to leave this Country in order to resume his circuit labours in England, we cannot permit him to depart with a bare recognition of regard, by way of a formal resolution of thanks recorded on the journal of the

Connexion ; the deep concern he has at all times manifested for the welfare of the Mission, the disinterested and impartial devotion to its best interests, together with his untiring and zealous labours cause us in token of gratitude, to record our sincere regret at parting ; he carries away with him a full expression of our sympathy, for his every spiritual and temporal happiness. And we ardently pray that our esteemed brother and his family may long be spared to the Church, and that they may continue to receive increasing measures of divine consolation, and a brighter and yet brighter prospect of that inheritance which is incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away. And if in the order of providence you should again re-appoint our dear Brother to return among us, we will rejoice, and we will gladly receive him for any official position which in your wisdom you should place him. We have especially appointed our beloved Brother to bring more prominently before you, at your Missionary Meetings, and in your next annual Conference, our state and wants and we doubt not but his extensive acquaintance with our work in every department, will enable him to do so with advantage, both to you and to us.

We feel grateful to you for appointing so suitable a successor as we believe the Rev. J. H. Robinson to be, to fill his place. We heard of his abilities, we are acquainted with his high standing in your connexion, and of his firm adherence to the principles by which we are mutually governed. We thank you for the appointment of so worthy a man to take the oversight of us, and we assure you that we shall receive him with joy ; do all that lies in our power to aid him in the discharge of his high and important duties, and we shall earnestly and constantly pray that his labours among us may be eminently blessed of God. And now dear fathers and brethern, we conclude by assuring you that you live in our hearts and that it shall be our endeavour to emulate your piety, your liberality, and your zeal ; *so that we also* may raise up a cause *in this land*, upon which you can think with pleasure ; the existence and stability of which

will far more than compensate you for all the efforts which you have put forth in its behalf.

May the great Head of the Church abundantly bless you and prosper you in all the works of your hands.

(Signed) H. O. CROFTS, *President*.
N. C. GOWAN, *Secretary*.

Conferance at South Crosby, June, 1851.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE CHAPEL RELIEF FUND.

Dr. 1851. **Cr.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Cash received by the Gen'l Sup't (Crofts), specially subscribed for the Owen Sound (Sullivan) chapel,	3	0	0	By Balance due Treasurer last yr.,		17	0
" London - -	1	5	2	" Paid the Owen So'nd Mission amount specially collected for Sullivan's Chapel,	3	0	0
" London & Blenheim,		5	0	" Paid the Beneficient Fund loan last year,	6	5	0
" Howard - -		1	10	" Remitted Mr. Schofield's am't specially collected for Sullivan Chapel, - - -	8	8	2
" Waterford - -		8	0				
" Norwich, - -		6	3				
" Nassagaweya, -		6	0				
" Barton, - -		6	3				
" Toronto, - -	1	0	6				
" Cavan, - -		5	4				
" Henrysburgh, -		8	0½				
" Goulburn & Drummond, - - -		6	3				
" Am't specially subscribed for the liquidation of the debt on Sulivan Chapel, -	8	8	2				
" Am't specially collected at the Anniversary at Conference for the Owen Sound (Pritchard's) chapel,	1	7	6				
" Am't due Treasurer,		15	11				
	18	10	2		18	10	2

R. H. BRETT,

Financial Secretary.

Toronto, June 15, 1851.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE PATERNAL FUND.

Dr. 1851. **Cr.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Ballance on hand,		16	6	Adams, L. P. - -	1	16	3
" London, - -	2	3	9	Bursell, H. - -	3	12	6
" Waterford, -	1	8	5	Hunt, F. - -	2	3	6
" Western Mission,		5	0	Blake, I. - -	1	9	1
" Malahide, - -		10	6	Bell, J. - - -	3	19	9
" Norwich, - -	1	1	0	Breakenridge, J. -	5	16	0
" St. Thomas, -		10	0	Curry, C. - -	3	5	3
" Hamilton, -		18	1½	Caswell, J. - -	2	3	6
" Nassagaweya, -	1	0	0	Coates, H. - -	2	18	0
" Welland Canal, -	1	16	4	Wright, A. - -	1	1	9
" Howard, - -		17	0	Hales, J. - -	2	18	0
" London & Blanchard		6	0	Powers, F. E. - -	1	1	9
" Cayuga, - -		5	0	Preston, W. - -	1	1	9
" Owen Sound, -	1	1	9	Robinson, W. - -	1	16	3
" Barton, - -	1	12	3	Rump, T. - -	1	16	3
" Ancaster, - -	1	7	10	Rolston, D. D. - -	1	1	9
" Brock, - -		3	9	Shilton, J. - -	3	19	9
" Whitchurch, -		4	5	Simpson, J. - -	1	16	3
" Holland Landing,		8	5	Wilkinson, J. - -	1	16	3
" Caledon, - -		5	0	Weaver, F. - -	1	1	9
" Cavan, - -		15	8	Childs, C. - -	1	1	9
" Oxford, - -		5	0	Goldsmith, T. - -	1	1	9
" Lansdowne, -		9	10	Oates, J. - -	2	3	6
" Crosby, - -		12	1	Jefferis, T. M. -	1	1	9
" Trafalgar, - -		19	2	J. W. G. Rogers, -	1	1	9
" Golburn & Drum'nd,		7	0				
" Dunham, - -	1	0	10				
" Stanstead, -		5	6				
" Elizabethtown, -		10	4	Balance in Treasurer's			
" Stukely, - -		5	0	hands, - - -		7	4
" Bolton, - -		8	9				
" Henrysburgh, -		12	8½				
" Grant from England. - - -	30	0	0				
	53	12	11		53	12	11

R. H. BRETT,

Financial Secretary.

Toronto, June 15, 1851.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE BENEFICENT FUND.

Dr. 1851. **Cr.**

1850	£	s.	d.	1850	£	s.	d.
To total nett amount of the Fund, -	400	17	11	By Amount loaned out bearing interest, secured by Mortgage, personal security, &c,	284	9	4
	400	17	11	" Cash in Treasurer's hands, - -	116	8	7
					400	17	11
" Cash on hand from 1850, - - -	116	8	7				
" English Grant, -	30	0	0				
" Interest paid during the year, - -	4	18	5	" Cash lent on Mortgage bearing interest,	100	0	0
" Amount J.B. Smith's Mortgage, - -	20	0	0	" Cash lent on personal security - -	12	10	0
" Circuit subscriptions				" Paid Rev. J. Jackson's Annuity, -	10	0	0
Toronto, Messrs Brett 5s, Doel 5s, Foster 2s 6d, Sharpe 2s 6d, McPhail 2s 6d, McClure 2s 6d, - - -	1	0	0	" Paid Rev. Mr. Rammage a claim passed by the Trustees, -	3	15	0
London, Messrs Plummer 10s, Pacey 5s, Di Salter 5s, Mr Williams 5s, - -	1	5	0	" Paid for an Iron Safe, by order of Conference, - - -	10	0	0
Brock 5s, Barton 2s 6d,		7	6	" Cash in the hands of the Treasurer, -	57	18	2
Caledon 2s 6d, Crosby 3s 1½d, - -		5	7½				
Trafalgar 5s, Elizabethtown 7s 8d, - -		12	8				
Norwich 25s, Cayuga 3s 6d, - - -	1	8	6				
Bolton 3s 2d, Goulburn 3s 9d, - - -		6	11				
Histon, J. - -	1	5	0				
Ogden, T. - -	1	5	0				
Williams, T. - -	4	0	0				
Rump, T. - -	1	5	0				
Warren, J. C. - -	2	10	0				
To Amount received back from Chapel Relief Fund, loaned last year, - - -	6	5	0				
	193	3	2½		193	3	2

R. H. BRETT,

Financial Secretary.

Toronto, June 15, 1851.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE MISSION FUND.

Dr. 1850. **Cr.**

	£	s.	d.
To Balance Cash on hand,	21	6	4
To Cash received, a subscription omitted in last year's Report, Miss Osterhout,	0	5	0
"Am'nt Grant from England from July to April,	544	3	4
" Collection at the Anniversary, at Conference,		12	6
" Cash contributed by the Circuits.			
London District.			
London, £72 3 4			
" & Blanchard, 3 4 6			
St. Thomas, 13 0 10			
Howard, 4 5 8			
Norwich, 4 5 9			
Malahide, 5 4 10			
Waterford, 20 3 5			
	122	8	4
Hamilton Dis.			
Hamilton, 4 15 0			
Ancaster, 29 1 0½			
Nassagaweya, 17 18 1			
Cayuga, 11 11 3			
Barton, 17 6 4			
Welland Canal, 41 13 9			
Owen Sound			
	122	5	5
Toronto Dis.			
Toronto City, 17 14 4			
Whitchurch, 3 12 8			
do 1 14 4			
do 11 3 7			
12 17 11			
Brock, 14 17 6			
Yorkville, 5 11 1			
Trafalgar, 16 13 1			
	71	6	7
Cavan Dis.			
Cavan, 32 1 10			
Newcastle, 13 4 1			
Prince Edward, 19 13 5			
	64	19	4
Johnstowne Dis.			
Lansdowne, 18 1 9			
Elizabethtown, 20 16 2			
Oxford, 4 17 4			
Crosby, 20 18 3½			
Drum'nd&Goulburn, 22 17 9			
	87	11	3
Eastern Dis.			
Stukely, 6 18 7			
Stanstead& Barnston, 6 4 7			
Bolton, 3 16 2			
Dunham, 5 11 11			
Henrysburgh, 5 17 5			
Potton,			
Montreal, 7 6			
	28	16	2
To cash paid into the hands of J.W.G. Rogers on Welland Canal Ct. last year,	3	10	8
	1070	4	11

	£	s.	d.
By printing Missionary Rep'ts.	14	7	6
" Passage of Rev. Mr. Barnett,	18	3	4
" Paid 1 qr. Salary do,	6	5	0
" do W. McClure's Travelling expenses to Mis. Meet. £4 19 1, Postage 9s 1d,	5	8	2
" Paid Printing, &c., on ac.,	1	3	9
" do Grant to Paternal Fund,	30	0	0
" do do Beneficent do,	30	0	0
" Paid Grants to various Cir'ts,			
London Dis.			
Lon'n& Blanchard, £40 8 3			
St. Thomas, 45 19 0			
Howard, 25 0 0			
Norwich, 17 10 0			
Malahide, 25 1 6			
Waterford, 22 10 0			
Western Mission, 31 1 3			
	207	10	0
Hamilton Dis.			
Hamilton, 30 0 0			
Ancaster 28 5 0			
Nassagaweya, 17 10 0			
Cayuga, 24 5 0			
Welland Canal, 40 0 0			
Owen Sound, 61 18 0			
Durham Road, 12 10 0			
	214	8	0
Toronto Dis.			
Supply at Toronto, 10 0 0			
Caledon, 27 8 6			
Trafalgar, 30 13 4			
Yorkville, 10 0 0			
Brock, 30 0 0			
Whitchurch, 20 0 0			
	128	1	10
Cavan Dis.			
Cavan. 35 4 2			
Newcastle, 15 0 0			
Prince Edward, 39 18 0			
	90	2	2
Johnstowne Dis.			
Lansdowne, 48 16 4			
Elizabethtown, 21 3 4			
Oxford, 21 12 3			
Crosby, 31 0 9			
Goulburn &Drum'nd, 35 0 0			
	157	11	11
Eastern Dis.			
Stukely, 25 0 0			
Bolton, 21 13 9			
Stanstead, 31 7 3			
Dunham, 26 16 4			
Henrysburgh, 30 6 3			
Potton, 15 0 0			
	150	3	7
By amount remainng in the hands of J.W.G. Rogers,	11	8	7
Balance in Treasurer's hands,	5	11	1
	1070	4	11

R. H. BRETT,

Toronto, June 15, 1851. *Financial Secretary.*